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3.0 Global Governance Commitment [Governance Process]: UUA Governance Manual Section Three

As amended February 2013. [Revision History](#).

Comment [L1]: Update

The purpose of the Board, on behalf of the Sources of Authority and Accountability, is to ensure that the Unitarian Universalist Association (a) achieves appropriate results for appropriate persons at an appropriate cost, and (b) avoids unacceptable actions and situations.

The Board will inspire, direct and hold accountable the administration and itself through the careful establishment of **broad** written policies reflecting Unitarian Universalist values and perspectives.

Comment [L2]: Lew's emphasis added.

Our Sources of Authority and Accountability are defined as:

1. Our member congregations
2. Current and future generations of Unitarian Universalists
3. The heritage, traditions, and ideals of Unitarian Universalism
4. The vision of Beloved Community
5. The Spirit of life, love, and the holy

[3.1 Governing Style](#). The Board will govern with an emphasis on (a) outward vision, (b) encouragement of diversity in viewpoints, (c) strategic leadership, (d) clear distinction of Board and President roles, (e) collective, (f) future, (g) pro-activity, and (h) an open and transparent process.

[3.2 Board Job Description](#). As informed and elected leaders of our Association of member congregations, the UUA Board of Trustees assures organizational performance by creating, communicating, and monitoring organizational systems and performance, in accord with established Board policy.

[3.3 Board and Board Member Code Of Conduct](#). The Board commits itself and its members to act in adherence with the UUA bylaws, to conduct themselves ethically, businesslike, and lawfully, and to act with respect for others, with proper use of authority and appropriate decorum when serving as Trustees.

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[3.4 External Relations](#). Speaking with one voice is an important value of the Board. To achieve this, the board will formally delegate official authority to speak on behalf of the organization in the public arena.

Committee chairs, working group conveners and officers are authorized to communicate with members of the press concerning areas of Board discussion, deliberation and action within the scope of their authority following meetings of their respective groups.

[3.5 Agenda Planning](#). The Board will follow an annual agenda which (a) advances and/or reevaluates the relevance of its Shared Vision (ENDS) and (b) continually improves Board performance through Board education and enriched input and deliberation.

3.6 [Election Of Officers And Officer Roles](#). The General Assembly elects the Moderator (CGO) and Financial Advisor. The Board elects the **Vice Moderator**, the Secretary and Assistant Secretary. The Board also appoints the Recording Secretary and the Treasurer of the UUA

Comment [L3]: Note, no second vice-moderator.

Youth Observer The Youth Observer is the primary liaison between GA Youth Caucus and the Board, but represents a larger youth voice on the Board.

The Youth Observer shall serve her/his term without vote.

Excluding matters of voting, The Youth Observer shall bear the same responsibilities and accountabilities as defined for trustees.

With consent of the Board, the enumerated tasks of the observer may evolve as the structures of denominational youth leadership evolve.

In collaboration with the Youth Trustee At-Large, the Youth Observer is charged with:

- o Informing GA Youth Caucus and Youth Caucus staff of relevant Board issues at the Youth Observer's discretion
- o Staying informed about the planning and activities of GA Youth Caucus
- o Keeping abreast of national issues that are of interest to Unitarian Universalist youth in districts and congregations
- o Linking and nurturing relationships between youth leaders in districts and congregations across the nation
- o Seeking out qualified youth candidates as future Youth Observers and for other UUA volunteer positions

[3.7 Board Committee Principles](#). Board committees will be used sparingly and, when used, will be chartered to reinforce the wholeness of the Board's responsibilities and to never to interfere with delegation from Board to President.

Comment [L4]: Minor wording changes for clarity.

[3.9 Cost Of Governance](#). Because poor governance costs more than learning to govern well, the Board will invest in its governance capacity.

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3.10 Board / General Assembly Relations. Pursuant to the Bylaws, the Board shall act for the Association between General Assemblies.

3.11 Board Need for General Assembly Plenary Time. The Board shall define its need for General Assembly plenary time.

